

Botox®

Description:

Botulinum toxin, often referred to by its product name Botox®, is derived from the poison manufactured by the bacteria, Clostridium (one form of Clostridium infection is called Botulism). Injections of the toxin blocks the nerve impulses, temporarily paralyzing the muscles that cause wrinkles while giving the skin a smoother, more refreshed appearance.

Effectiveness:

Excellent, results within a few hours to several days.

Estimated Treatment Cost:

\$500-\$800, depending upon areas.

Longevity of Results:

3-4 Months

Undesired Effects:

Stinging/burning during injection; synthetic stiff plastic appearance in some; short-term eyelid droop; Hematomas and headaches may also occur.

Harmful Side Effects:

Rare, but possible systemic risks (respiratory arrest, etc.). Long-term effects are still unknown, but dose amounts for humans are fatal to rats in laboratory studies. Do not get Botox® while pregnant, as it may be fatal to your fetus.

Staffing Required:

Physician

Comments:

Treats only motion wrinkles (Crow's feet, between brows (Glabella), and forehead).